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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Pope et al.

Application No. 10/009,698

Filed: December 5, 2001

COMPOSITIONS AND METHODS FOR

DETECTING SYPHILIS USING SYNTHETIC

ANTIGENS

Examiner: Khatol S. Shahnan Shah

Date: August 28, 2003

Art Unit: 1645

Confirmation No. 1330

CERTIFICATE OF MAII

I hereby certify that this paper and the documents referred to as being attached or enclosed herewith are being deposited with the United States Postal Service on August 28, 2003 as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: MAIL STOP NON-FEE AMENDMENT, COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, PO BOX 1450, ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450.

Debra A. Gordon, Ph.D.

Attorney for Applicant

MAIL STOP NON-FEE AMENDMENT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS PO BOX 1450 **ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450**

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AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO NON-FINAL OFFICE ACTION

This Amendment and Response to Non-Final Office Action ("Amendment") is filed in response to the non-final Office action dated June 17, 2003. A three-month period for reply was set, making a response due on or before September 17, 2003. It is believed that no fees are required in connection with filing this Amendment; however, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any fees that may be required to the deposit account referenced on the accompanying transmittal letter.

Please amend the specification as set forth beginning on page 2.

Please amend the claims as set forth beginning on page 4.

Remarks begin on page 8 of this Amendment.